(b) if so, the details of the programme and partner agencies; and

(c) whether Government propose to introduce such programme at the school level through new NCERT books?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The programme envisages partnership with the Exchanges, National Institute of Securities Markets, Investor Associations and State Governments.

(c) There is no proposal for introducing investors awareness programme at the school level through new NCERT textbooks. However, Government consider a course on personal finance at school level useful.

Hiring of PAN cards by share brokers

†325. SHRI MOTILAL VORA:
SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that share brokers are hiring PAN cards from the PAN card holders and thus, money of terrorist organizations also is being invested in the share market;

(b) whether it is also a fact that a scandal of fake Demat accounts was detected in Indian market during the year 2005;

(c) if so, the number of persons found guilty in it so far and the action taken against them; and

(d) the steps taken by Government to check the practice of getting PAN cards on hire?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has informed that verification by the stock exchanges has not led to any such finding.

(b) SEBI has noticed certain irregularities in a few Initial Public Offerings made during 2003-05.

(c) SEBI has identified 24 key operators, 82 financiers, 12 depository participants and 2 depositories, who were associated with the irregularities and issued a variety of directions, including disgorgement, monetary penalty, debarment, etc. against them.

(d) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.